Progress made on Indo-Sri Lanka Trade Pact

2968. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a newsitem published in the Hindustan Times dated 12th March, 1999 captioned "No forward movement yet on Indo-Sri Lanka Trade Pact";

(b) if so, the hindrances coming in the way of implementation of above agreement between the two countries; and

(c) by when Government would be able to set out the differences indicating whether this matter figured during the Foreign Ministers' meeting of SAARC countries held in Sri Lanka?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEDGE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The lists of items on which duty preferences shall be given, and those on which no preferences shall be given by the two sides for the present, are under finalisation. Consultations are on for the purpose. The matter also figured in the discussions during Foreign Minsters' visit to Sri Lanka recently. The matter is expected to be finalised shortly.

Irregularities in export promotion councils and FIEO

2969. SHRI RUMANDLA RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to refer to answers to Unstarred Questoin 793 and Unstarred Question 1585 given in Rajya Sabha on the 9th and 14th December, 1998 and state:

(a) whether any communication has been received from a Member of Parliament in the matter; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEDGE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Position has been clariffied to the Hon'ble Member through my reply to his letter. Regarding Assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 1585 answered on 14.12.98, the report received from FIEO did not give the complete position and more details have since been called from FIEO. A detailed reply will be furnished to Rajya Sabha Secretariat and to the Hon'ble Member after getting full details of the case from FIEO.

आयात-निर्यात क्षेत्र को सरल बनाने के लिए विधेयक का मसौदा

2970. **श्री चीमनभाई हरीभाई शुक्ला:** क्या वाणिज्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार आयात/निर्यात क्षेत्र के कार्यकरण को सरल बनाने के लिए किसी व्यापक विधेयक को तैयार करने का विचार रखती है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ग) क्या उक्त विधेयक के मसौदे को अंतिम रूप दे दिया गया है; और

(घ) इसे संसद् में कब तक पुरःस्थापित किए जाने की संभावना है?

वाणिज्य मंत्री (श्री रामकृष्ण हेगड़े): (क) से (घ) इस समय ऐसा कोई प्रस्ताव सरकार के विचाराधीन नहीं है। विदेश व्यापार (विकास और विनियमन) अधिनियम 1992 में आयात/निर्यात क्षेत्र के कार्य संचालन के सरलीकरण के लिए पर्याप्त लचीला ढांचा प्रदान किया गया है;

राज्य व्यापार निगम में अनियमितताएं

1971. **श्री चीमनभाई हरीभाई शुक्ला:** क्या वाणिज्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या उच्चतम न्यायालय ने राज्य व्यापार निगम के मामले में गत वर्ष यह निर्णय दिया था कि आचार-संहिता का बार-बार उल्लघंन अपने-आप में कदाचार है;